

Eastern District Stakeholder Meeting Minutes July 18, 2003

The following persons were present: Carol Baer, Debbie Gillespie, Karri Gates, Kathy Williams, Kathy Meath, Peg Capo, Steve Brennell, Kathleen Hopkins, Suzanne Wells, Cindy Mueller and Janet Portell.

Cindy introduced a guest, Scott Shepard, who is affiliated with Brookside Health. His organization identifies places and trains persons to work with Mentally challenged Individuals with MR/DD and challenging behaviors. His office is in Kansas City and they are looking to set up an office in St. Louis. They deal strictly with placing employees in the mental health field.

PURPOSE: A discussion was held regarding the purpose of the stakeholder meetings. The initial purpose was to establish far better communication between DMH and it's provider agencies. Several suggestions were made as to how the meetings could be enhanced. One suggestion was to revisit the 3 core issues. It was decided that there should be some sort of "position paper" created that would list the objectives of the core groups. Another suggestion was the need to create objectives so that the outcomes of the core groups could be measured. One person suggested adding a 4th issue entitled "Quality of Services"

Stakeholders decided to revisit their core groups for the first hour of the next Stakeholders meeting and then spend the 2nd hour sharing what they had discussed. It was agreed that parents need to be a part of the group. Suzanne and Cindy will send an e-mail out to the original members about restructuring the stakeholders and getting back to the original purpose.

BUDGET: Are we really prioritizing? The budget deficit causes consumer plans to list needs that are related to health and safety. Needs should be listed as if money is available. Stakeholders plan to create a letter about Eastern District needs and send it to the budget committee.

WAIT LISTS: Janet Portell reported that 62 Priority I consumers have been identified. Ten consumers have been placed. 1.2 million dollars have been allocated for the Eastern District for case load growth.

TRANSPORTATION: Stakeholders were impressed with the transition to Bi-State. Suzanne reported that there are still some glitches in the system, but it is going very well overall. A Bi-State report should be available mid August.

CONSUMER SUPPORT WAIVER: The Community Support Waiver has a cap of \$20,000. Eligible consumers who have been receiving POS funding will be transitioned into the waiver.

EMERGENCY RESPITE/CHILDREN: The SLRC staff again reiterated the need for additional agencies to serve dually diagnosed children and those with challenging behaviors.

The next stakeholder meeting will be August 8 at 9:00 a.m. at 211 N. Lindbergh.

Respectfully Submitted Naomi Lebsock